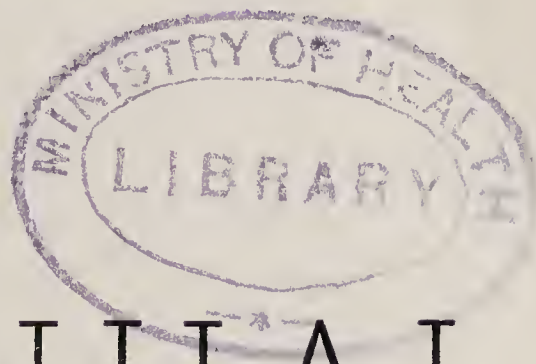


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Mountain Ash
Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health

1953



MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
THIRTY-FIRST DECEMBER
ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED & FIFTY-THREE

BY

J. LL. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (LOND).

C O N T E N T S

	PAGE
BIRTHS	5
CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION ...	20
DEATHS (ALL AGES)	7
FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK AND DAIRIES) ACT, 1944 ...	34
FOOD. HYGIENE CAMPAIGN	24
GENERAL HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES ...	28
ICE CREAM REGULATIONS, 1947	24
LABORATORY WORK	20
MEAT AND OTHER FOODS, INSPECTION OF ...	35
MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) ACT, 1949 ...	34
MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1949	34
MORTALITY, INFANT	6
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	12
PET ANIMALS ACT	36
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE	3
RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951	36
REPORT ON TUBERCULOSIS	15
RODENT CONTROL	37
SANITARY INSPECTORS, SUMMARY OF WORK ...	32
STATISTICS, GENERAL	4
STATISTICS, EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL ...	5
STILL BIRTHS	7
WATER SUPPLY	21
TABLES: DEATHS	8-9
,, INFANT MORTALITY	10-11
,, NOTIFIED CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ...	16-17
,, HOSPITAL AND SATANORIA CASES ...	18-19

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

DAY OF MEETING

Second TUESDAY in each month at 5.15 p.m.

Chairman :

Councillor A. H. MAGGS

Members :

Councillor Miss M. GEORGE	Councillor W. I. JONES
Councillor W. M. REES	Councillor J. LEWIS
Councillor A. S. J. HILLIER	Councillor S. WRIGHT
Councillor Mrs. M. BATH	Councillor E. A. BENNETT
Councillor Mrs. L. WATTS	Councillor S. BLAKE
Councillor A. MORGAN	Councillor R. V. NELMS
Councillor W. MORGAN	Councillor Mrs. M. LEWIS
Councillor A. JONES	Councillor W. WOOSNAM
Councillor H. J. BOYCE (Ret.)	Councillor G. E. WILLIAMS (Ret.)

Staff of Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health J. LL. WILLIAMS,
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(Lond.)

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C.R.S.I., Cert. Meat & Other
Foods R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspectors G. M. JAMES,
C.S.I.B., Cert Meat & Other
Foods R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
W. C. GRIFFITHS,
C.S.I.B., A.R.S.I.

Clerk..... H. J. THOMAS

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health's
Annual Report

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
OXFORD STREET,
MOUNTAIN ASH,

August, 1954

*To the Chairman and Members of the Mountain Ash
Urban District Council*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions of the District, and the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department, together with the vital and other statistics for the year 1953.

I desire to record my thanks to the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. J. WATTERS, and to the staff of the Health Department for their hard work and assistance to me during the year.

Yours sincerely,

J. LL. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the District (in acres)	10,504
Population	30,970
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1953) according to the Rate Books	8,411
Rateable Value	£109,450
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£402

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

		Total.	Male.	Female
Live Births : Legitimate ...	...	506	268	238
Illegitimate ...	...	19	8	11
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the resident population ...	...	16.95		
Still-Births : Legitimate ...	...	6	5	1
Illegitimate...	.....	2	—	2
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births registered ...	...	15.0		
Deaths ...	...	349	205	144
Death-rate per 1,000 estimated average population ...	...	11.27		
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Heading 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :—				

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births.
No. 30.—Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	2	3.7

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered in the district during the year was 525. The number of males was 276 and females 249. This gives a Birth Rate of 16.95 per 1,000 inhabitants on a population of 30,970 (Registrar General).

The Birth-rate for the year is 1.45 higher than the rate for England and Wales, .05 lower than the rate for the County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 1.25 higher than the rate for towns ranging 25,000 to 50,000 inhabitants (Mountain Ash is placed in this group) at the census taken in 1951. The Birth-rate is 1.32 lower than last year.

The number of illegitimate children registered was 19. This is equivalent to an illegitimate rate of 36.1 per 1,000 births registered.

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age registered in the district during the year was 13, 9 males and 4 females. This gives an infantile death-rate of 24.7 per 1,000 live births registered, and .41 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the area.

The infantile death-rate of 24.7 per 1,000 births registered is 26.18 lower than for 1952.

The neo-natal mortality rate (the number of deaths during the first month of life) was 17.1 per 1,000 births, and is 69.2 per cent. of the infantile death-rate.

I append a table showing the number of deaths of infants under one year of age, and the infantile death-rate per 1,000 births, for the past ten years. Also, a table comparing the Infant Mortality and Neo-Natal Mortality for the Mountain Ash Urban Area with other areas for 1953 :—

<i>Year</i>	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Number of Deaths ...	33	35	32	48	30
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	51.9	57.0	50.0	73.0	46.0
<i>Year</i>	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Number of Deaths ...	25	25	23	29	13
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	46.0	48.6	41.7	50.8	24.7



INFANT MORTALITY.—Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Under 1 week</i>	<i>1-2 weeks</i>	<i>2-3 weeks</i>	<i>3-4 weeks</i>	<i>Total under 4 weeks</i>	<i>1-3 4 weeks and under 3 months</i>	<i>3-6 3 months and under 6 months</i>	<i>6-9 6 months and under 9 months</i>	<i>9-12 9 months and under 12 months</i>	<i>Total Deaths under 1 year</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other T.B. Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia all forms ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Accidental ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at Birth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations ...	1	—	1	1	3	—	1	—	—	4
Premature Birth ...	5	—	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
GRAND TOTAL ...	6	—	2	1	9	1	2	—	1	13



DEATHS Registered during the Calendar Year 1953, classified by age and causes.

Name of District—MOUNTAIN ASH.

ANALYSIS OF NETT DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE.

Cause of Death	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District												
	Under One year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 3 years	3 and under 4 years	4 and under 5 years	5 and under 10 years	10 and under 15 years	15 and under 20 years	20 and under 35 years	35 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	4	6	15
Tuberculosis—Other Forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infections	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm: Stomach ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	7	12
" " Lung, Bronchus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	5
" " Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4
" " Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	9	8	19
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	10	18	29
Coronary disease, angina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	11	25	42
Hypertension with heart disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	5
Other Heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	10	22	37
Other circulatory disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	7	9
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3
Pneumonia	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	8
Bronchitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	27	37
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	10	17
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	6
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Congenital malformations	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	41	59
Motor vehicle accidents	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
All other accidents	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3	1	1	4	11
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
GRAND TOTAL	13	2	—	—	—	2	—	3	16	15	97	201	349

INFANT MORTALITY. NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

SOURCE.	Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1,000 live births.	Deaths under four weeks.	Per rate 1,000 live births
England and Wales ...	—	26.8	—	17.7
Glamorgan County ...	371	31.18	230	19.33
Urban Districts ...	254	29.10	156	17.87
Rural Districts ...	117	36.92	74	23.35
MOUNTAIN ASH ...	13	24.76	9	17.14

Other Glamorgan Districts :—

Aberdare ...	...	17	30.80	14	25.36
Barry ...	...	22	30.26	14	19.26
Bridgend ...	...	9	40.18	7	31.25
Caerphilly ...	...	27	36.73	15	20.41
Ogmore and Garw ...	...	16	42.67	9	24.00
Llantrisant Rural ...	...	20	39.06	10	19.53
Pontypridd ...	...	11	19.00	8	13.82
Rhondda ...	...	51	30.61	32	19.21

STILL BIRTHS

The number of Still Births registered during the year was 8, and is 1.5 per cent of the total number of births registered.

DEATHS (All Ages)

The number of deaths in the district during the year was 349. This gives a Death-rate of 11.27 per 1,000 upon an estimated population of 30,970.

The causes of death in the various age groups were as set out in the following tables. It will be noted from the Infant Mortality Table that the greatest single cause of death is Premature Birth.

Notifiable Diseases

The following tables shew the age and ward distribution of the cases of infectious diseases notified during the year under review :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Diseases.</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Number of Cases recorded on Form 118e (cor- rected figures)</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever	26	26	5	—
Diphtheria	4	4	4	—
Measles	72	72	—	—
Whooping Cough	176	176	—	—
Pneumonia	31	31	8	8
Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	—
Erysipelas	4	4	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	—
Paratyphoid	1	—	1	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	4	2	4	1
Sonne Dysentery	2	1	2	—
Tuberculosis :—				
(a) Pulmonary { Males ...	34	—	10	11
{ Females ...	40	—	15	4
{ Total ...	74	—	25	15
(b) Non- { Males ...	1	—	—	—
Pulmonary { Females ...	4	—	4	1
{ Total ...	5	—	4	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1953. Analysis of the Total Cases in Age Groups.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 2 years</i>	<i>2 to 3 years</i>	<i>3 to 4 years</i>	<i>4 to 5 years</i>	<i>5 to 10 years</i>	<i>10 to 15 years</i>	<i>15 to 20 years</i>	<i>20 to 35 years</i>	<i>35 to 45 years</i>	<i>45 to 65 years</i>	<i>65 yrs. & over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	1	5	8	9	1	1	—	—	—	—	26
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	4
Measles ...	7	7	10	11	17	19	—	1	—	—	—	—	72
Whooping Cough ...	15	25	26	25	36	45	3	—	—	1	—	—	176
Pneumonia ...	5	2	1	1	3	4	—	1	2	7	3	—	31
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infections...	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	4
Sonne Dysentery ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
TOTAL ...	30	35	38	42	64	81	6	7	4	3	10	3	323

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1953. Number of Cases notified in each Ward.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Duffryn</i>	<i>Darran- las</i>	<i>Miskin</i>	<i>Penrhiw ceiber</i>	<i>Aber- cynon</i>	<i>Ynysy- bwl</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>No. of Cases removed to Hospital.</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	5	3	3	7	8	—	26	5
Diphtheria ...	—	1	—	—	3	—	4	4
Measles ...	21	1	7	41	—	2	72	—
Whooping Cough ...	26	44	39	40	27	—	176	—
Pneumonia ...	3	3	5	20	—	—	31	8
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	2	1	—	4	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Paratyphoid ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	—	3	—	—	—	4	4
Sonne Dysentery ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	2
TOTAL ...	58	52	58	111	41	3	323	28



Cases Admitted, Treated and Discharged from various Sanatoria and Hospitals during 1953

Name of Institution	W A R D S													
	MALES.							FEMALES.						
	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total
Glan Ely Hospital	—	—	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
Mardy Isolation Hospital	—	7	1	4	—	—	12	3	4	1	5	4	—	17
Tonteg Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	3
Pontsarn Hospital	1	1	—	2	—	1	5	2	2	4	2	5	—	15
Sully Hospital	—	—	1	2	2	—	5	—	2	1	2	4	—	9
City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff ..	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Adelina Patti Hospital	—	2	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chepstow Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Highland Moors Hospital	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Llangwyfan Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Benenden Sanatorium, Benenden, Kent	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	1	11	4	12	3	5	36	5	9	8	10	15	3	50



Pulmonary and other Cases of Tuberculosis Notified by Medical Practitioners during 1953

Ages		W A R D S														TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY	
		MALES							FEMALES								
		Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Duffryn	Darranlas	Miskin	Penrhiw- ceiber	Aber- cynon	Ynysybwl	Total	Males	Females
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	5 to 10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	10 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	—	—	
	15 to 20 years	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	9	—	—	
	20 to 25 years	1	1	—	—	1	3	2	2	1	2	1	—	8	—	—	
	25 to 35 years	2	1	—	—	1	4	—	1	1	3	2	—	7	—	3	
	35 to 45 years	—	3	—	3	—	7	1	1	1	1	1	—	5	2	—	
	45 to 55 years	—	2	4	—	—	7	1	3	2	2	—	—	8	—	—	
	55 to 65 years	3	2	2	—	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	
65 years and over	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1		
TOTAL		7	10	6	4	5	2	34	6	8	6	11	7	2	40	11	4
OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	1 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	5 to 10 years	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	10 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	15 to 20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	
	20 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	45 to 55 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	55 to 65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
TOTAL		—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	1	—	4	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

A close liaison is maintained between the Chest Physicians, the Local Health Authority and this Authority and when necessary, houses are visited by the Sanitary Inspectors and reports submitted to the Housing Manager on the living conditions existing at the homes of some of the patients notified to be suffering from Tuberculosis.

The working in harmony of the various departments has been, in my opinion, responsible for the re-housing of a number of patients who previously had been living under unfavourable conditions.

The Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death-rate per 1,000 population for 1953 was 0.48, and the other Forms of Tuberculosis Death-rate 0.03.

The following table shows the incidence of Tuberculosis in the district for the past ten years :—

CASES NOTIFIED.			DEATHS.	
Year.	Pulmonary.	Other Forms.	Pulmonary.	Other Forms.
1944	... 70	16	21	4
1945	... 63	7	22	4
1946	... 60	8	22	5
1947	... 48	5	20	6
1948	... 49	10	20	2
1949	... 34	6	18	—
1950	... 44	7	18	6
1951	... 54	6	14	1
1952	... 59	6	16	—
1953	... 73	5	15	1

I append Tables showing the Age and Ward Distribution of all cases notified and the number treated at the various sanatoria :—

Laboratory Work

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

As in previous years arrangements have been made with the Glamorgan County Council for the chemical and bacteriological examination of specimens from this area at the Public Health Laboratory, The Parade, Cardiff.

Medical Practitioners in the district have been informed that outfits (excluding Sputum outfits) for the collection and transmission of specimens, can be obtained from the Public Health Department, Oxford Street, Mountain Ash.

The following table shows the nature and number of specimens sent for examination, and the results :—

DISEASE SUSPECTED.	Number of Specimens.	Result.	
		Positive.	Negative
Diphtheria :—			
Throat Swab ...	4	—	4
Tuberculosis :—			
Sputum ...	3	—	3
Para-Typhoid Fever :—			
Blood ...	1	—	1
Dysentery and Enteric Fever :—			
Rectal Swab ...	2	1	1
Urine ...	1	—	1
Faeces ...	1	—	1

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is under the control of the Council, and, during the year there was a plentiful and continuous supply. All the houses in the area have a piped supply of water from the Council's mains, apart from the outlying farms and premises. In addition, the Trading Estates at Hirwaun and Ynysboeth are supplied. The sources, gathering grounds and reservoirs, apart from the Penderyn Reservoir in Brecknockshire, are within the Mountain Ash Urban Area and, the capacity of the reservoirs is as follows.

Penderyn Reservoir	...	132,000,000	gallons
Clydach Reservoir	...	11,550,000	„
Darranlas Reservoir	...	3,500,000	„
Perthcelyn Reservoir	...	30,000,000	„
Buarth-y-Capel Reservoir...		500,000	„
Gilfach Reservoir	...	60,000	„
Cefnpennar Reservoir	...	23,000	„

In addition to the above reservoirs, there is an intake at Rhydygwreiddyn, Llanwonno, which is used occasionally.

The source of each supply is of an upland surface type, and tends to be soft in character. One supply of water, namely, the Darranlas Reservoir, which serves the main part of the town of Mountain Ash, is treated by sand filtration, and chlorination, but the other sources are chlorinated only.

The water (raw and treated) from the sources in general use were sampled once monthly and, on occasions, more frequently. Those sources not in general use were sampled when that water was used.

396 samples (198 Chemical and 198 Bacteriological) were taken and submitted to the Analyst at the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, for examination.

The following table gives a summarised report of the Analyst on the bacteriological examinations:—

	Number	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory
CLYDACH :				
Raw... ..	21	8	7	6
Treated	25	22	—	3
DARRANLAS :				
Raw	20	3	7	10
Treated	21	19	—	2
PERTHCELYN :				
Raw... ..	18	4	6	8
Treated	21	19	2	—
PENDERYN :				
Raw... ..	20	2	9	9
Treated	33	23	1	9
RHYDYGWREIDDYN :				
Raw... ..	1	1	—	—
STREAM ADJACENT to RHYDYGWREIDDYN				
Raw... ..	1	1	—	—
BUARTH-Y-CAPEL :				
Raw... ..	4	2	1	1
Treated	2	2	—	—
BOREHOLE INLET :				
Raw... ..	3	1	2	—
Treated	4	3	1	—
STREAM, PENDERYN :				
Raw... ..	4	—	3	1
TOTAL	198	110	39	49

No special action, apart from the usual precautions for the safety of the water, was taken.

PLUMBO SOLVENCY.

The whole of the sources are soft, and there is, therefore, a danger of action on lead. All supplies are treated with chalk to eliminate this danger.

GWERNIFOR SWIMMING BATHS.

12 Samples (6 chemical and 6 bacteriological) were taken during the year and proved to be satisfactory on examination. Routine treatment of the water with Copper Sulphate was carried out to obviate the growth of algae.

PADDLING POOL, ABERCYNON.

8 Samples (4 chemical and 4 bacteriological) were taken during the year. 2 samples were bacteriologically unsatisfactory.

Food Hygiene Campaign

THE ICE CREAM (Heat Treatment, etc.) REGULATIONS

1947 - 1952

All premises where Ice Cream is manufactured and sold have been inspected frequently and comply with the above Regulations.

I am pleased to say that all vehicles used in the retail sale of Ice Cream have been maintained at the high standard approved by the Council.

30 samples of Ice Cream were taken and submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination, with the following results :—

Provisional Grade 1 (Satisfactory)	Provisional Grade 2 (Fair).	Provisional Grade 3 (Unsatis- factory).	Provisional Grade 4 (Very Un- satisfactory).
25	2	2	1

An additional 5 samples were taken, but owing to difficulties at the laboratory, no results were given for these.

FOOD CAMPAIGNS

(1) Number of Food Premises in the Area :—

Grocers and Provision Dealers	...	...	58
General Dealers...	...	...	111
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	34
Fishmongers	...	...	2
Refreshment Dealers & Confectioners	...	...	14
Butchers	...	...	30
Fish Fryers	...	...	21
Confectionery only	...	...	4
Bakeries	...	...	12
Ice Cream (including Ice Lollies)	...	...	1
Licensed Premises	...	...	34

Mineral Water Manufacturer	...	...	1
Dairies	...	...	3
Wholesale Grocers	...	...	2
Canteens : Colliery	...	...	5
„ School	...	...	6
„ Railway	...	...	1
„ Factory	...	...	6

(2) Number of Premises registered under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :—

(1) Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream	...	9
(2) Sale of Ice Cream	...	69
(3) Fried Fish and Chipped Potatoes	...	21
(4) Butchers' Smalls	...	15

18 Dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regs. 1949.

(3) 241 visits and inspections of registered food premises were made during the year.

As a result, very noticeable improvements in methods of handling, preparing, serving and displaying food have been achieved. The problems confronting us are many and varied and, in my opinion, the proper and frequent inspections of food premises and direct approach to the food handler is the only answer.

Detailed inspections of canteens and kitchens under the control of the Hospitals Management Committee, National Coal Board, British Railways and local Factories have been carried out. Reports and recommendations were sent to the responsible bodies and, as a result, considerable improvement has been achieved.

(4) Lectures on food hygiene were given during the year to staffs of Hospital Kitchens and Canteens throughout the area.

Our thanks and appreciation are due to the management and staffs for their ready co-operation and assistance.

- (5) Disposal of condemned food—burial in the Council's Refuse Tips. All tins are pierced before burial.
- (6) No special examination of food done other than that which occurred in normal routine of work and is included in the Sanitary Inspectors Report.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938 - 50

Although this Authority failed in its efforts to become a Food and Drugs Authority, a close liaison exists between the Glamorgan County Council and ourselves and I give herewith a statement showing the number of Samples taken by the County Sanitary Inspector in the Mountain Ash Urban Area during the year ended 31st December, 1953.

SAMPLE.	No. taken	SAMPLE.	No. taken
Milk	99	Blancmange Powder ...	2
Butter	2	Self Raising Flour ...	8
Sauce	3	Health Salts	1
Canned Meat Soup ...	2	Tomato Spread	1
Spaghetti Sauce	1	Synthetic Cream	1
Cake & Pudding Mixture ...	1	Cream	1
Compound Fat	1	Ground Rice	1
Table Jelly	11	Pudding Mixture	1
Shredded Beef Suet ...	4	Coffee & Chicory Essence...	3
Jam	6	Rice Creamola	1
Tea	1	Semolina	1
Condensed Milk	3	Tomato Sauce	2
Cake Flour Mixture ...	5	Fish Paste	1
Sponge Mixture	12	Salad Cream	1
Cornflour	4	Canned Fish	1
Cooking Fat	1	Dessicated Coconut ...	2
Baking Powder	2	Yorkshire Pudding and	
Boiled Sweets	1	Pancake Mixture ...	1
Vinegar	5	Shortcake Mixture...	1
Mustard	4	Gelatine	1
Custard Powder	4	White Pepper	1
Lemon Curd	2	Dried Beans	1
Ice Cream	8	Butterscotch	3
Halibut Liver Oil		Gravy Browning	1
Capsules	2	Orange Squash	1
Vitamin Capsules and			
Tablets	2		
Trifle Powder	1		
Macaroni	1		
		TOTAL	226

Three samples of Ice Cream were found on analysis, to be deficient in fat to the extent of not less than 30%, 35% and 36% respectively.

Proceedings were taken against the Vendor resulting in fines amounting to £9 plus £2. 2s. 0d. Advocate's fees and £2 5s. 0d. Analyst's fees.

I am indebted to Dr. W. E. Thomas, County Medical Officer of Health, for supplying me with the above information.

General Health and Welfare Services of the District

1. Services provided by the Glamorgan County Council :—

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, School Medical and Health Visiting.

These services are administered by the Divisional Medical Officer.

Headquarters : Divisional Health Office,
New Clinic Buildings,
Rock Grounds,
ABERDARE

Tel. No. : Aberdare 441.

(b) MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE :—

The duly authorised officer for this area is :—
Mr. Stanley Williams, Amroth, Clive Terrace,
Ynysybwyl, Glam.

Telephone No. : Ynysybwyl 26.

(c) Ambulance Service :—

The Ambulance Station for this area is situated at
Treforest, Glam.

Telephone No. : Treforest 2112.

(d) WELFARE SERVICE :—

Officers of the Welfare Department are available to
offer advice and assistance to those in need of
hostel accomodation, the blind and the handi-
capped.

The local office for this area is at :—

Area Office, Llewellyn Street, Trecynon, Aberdare
Telephone No. : Aberdare 318.

(e) CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT :—

The office of the Children's Department of the County Council is at 33 to 36 Adam Street, Cardiff.

Tel. No. : Cardiff 31696 to 31698.

There is, however, working in this district, a Children's Visitor, Mrs. Davies, Nafton House, Caple St., Bargoed, Glam.

(f) REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES
This area comes under the Pontypridd District and the Superintendent's Office is at Court House Street, Pontypridd, Glam.

Telephone No. : Pontypridd 3122.

The local Offices are situated at :—

10 Ffrwd Crescent, Mountain Ash.

Telephone : Mountain Ash 2192.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday—

10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Glancynon Post Office, Abercynon.

Tuesday : 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

Workmen's Institute, Ynysybwl.

Tuesday : 11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

(g) Probation Officer :—

The address of the Principal Probation Officer is at St Catherine's Chamber, Mill St., Pontypridd.

Telephone No. Pontypridd 2157.

For this area the address is :—

Probation Officer Office,
Cardiff St., Aberdare.

Telephone No. : Aberdare 332.

2. HOSPITAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE WELSH REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

Hospital facilities for this area are administered by the Merthyr and Aberdare Hospital Management Committee. The office of this Committee is at St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.

Telephone No. : Merthyr 900.

The following is a list of the hospitals and clinics used by the residents of the area :—

Mountain Ash & Penrhiwceiber General Hospital,
Mountain Ash.

Telephone No. : Mountain Ash 2213.

Lady Aberdare Maternity Hospital, Granville Tce.,
Mountain Ash.

Telephone No. : Mountain Ash 2194.

Fedw Hir Convalescent Hospital, Llwydcoed, Aberdare
Telephone No. : Aberdare 612.

Mardy Isolation Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil.
Telephone No. : Merthyr 230.

(For Infectious Diseases).

Chest Clinic, Melbourne House, Penrhiwceiber Road,
Penrhiwceiber. (This clinic is open on Tuesday
and Friday mornings 10 a.m. to 12 noon).

3. SERVICES PROVIDED BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

(a) Ministry of National Insurance :—

Central Office (Wales) is at Cathays Park, Cardiff.
Telephone No. : Cardiff 26411.

Local Office is at Duffryn Road, Mountain Ash.
Telephone No. : Mountain Ash 2215.

(b) Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel.

This office is situated at the East Entrance, Prudential Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff.

Telephone No : Cardiff 26161.

(c) National Assistance Board.

The Area Office for this district is at Glanynys, Cwmbach Road, Aberdare.

Telephone No. : Aberdare 343.

4. GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICES :—

This Service is provided by the Glamorgan Executive Council of 47 Park Place, Cardiff.

Telephone No. : Cardiff 26216. (National Health Council)

5. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

BURIAL OF THE DEAD.

Under the provisions of the Act, during the year the cost of burying four persons was accepted by this authority.

J. LL. WILLIAMS,

Medical Officer of Health.

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Summary of work done by the Sanitary Inspectors

Houses and premises inspected and re-visited ... 3,421

Number of Notices served under Section 93, Public
Health Act, 1936 :—

Informal	...	...	...	...	...	...	534
Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	...	293

General Repairs—

Chimneys and fireplaces	...	...	...	...	227
Roofs	...	...	...	...	353
Eavesgutters and downpipes	...	...	...	...	299
External walls	...	...	...	...	97
Windows and doors	...	...	...	...	196
Internal walls, partitions and ceilings	...	...	...	...	203
Floors	...	...	...	...	83
Internal staircases	...	...	...	...	24
Cupboards and skirtings	...	...	...	...	54
Sculleries and pantries	...	...	...	...	56
Yard pavements and steps	...	...	...	...	121
Dry areas provided	...	...	...	...	3
Wash houses and coal houses	...	...	...	...	27
Boundary and forecourt walls	...	...	...	...	54
Dirty premises	...	...	...	...	8
Fowl cots removed	...	...	...	...	1
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	12
Repairs to water services	49

Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936—

Number of Notices served	41
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Drainage—

Cleansed, repaired and relaid	113
Drains tested	243
Wash-up sinks provided and repaired...	27

Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936—

Number of Notices served	145
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Sanitary Conveniences—

General repairs	189
Water flushing apparatus repaired and renewed	90
New accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	2
Cesspools cleansed	...	...	...	...	4

Legal Proceedings—

During the year five summonses under Section 93 and four under Section 45 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were taken for non-abatement of nuisances.

Court Orders to complete the work within six weeks were issued for the Section 93 summonses.

A fine of £2 was imposed for three of the summonses under Section 45.

Costs were recovered by the Council in each case.

Factory Act, 1947—

Number of bakehouses on register	...	...	...	12
Number of factories on register	...	...	...	102
Number of visits	...	...	...	299
Number of notices...	...	...	...	2
Number of outworkers	10

Infectious Diseases—

Number of cases visited	40
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Disinfection—

Number of houses fumigated after infectious disease...	76
Number of dirty or verminous house sprayed or fumigated	32

Licensed Premises—

The investigation into the hygienic and sanitary conditions of all licensed premises was continued during the year.

In carrying out the investigation, attention was primarily directed to the following:—

- (a) Facilities for the washing and sterilising of receptacles (glasses, pots, and tankards, etc.)
- (b) Sanitary accommodation (with regard to the number and separation of sexes).
- (c) General cleanliness of premises, bars, fittings and apparatus
- (d) Risk of lead poisoning from the use of beer-raising apparatus.
- (e) Condition of living quarters of occupier.
- (f) Facilities for the provision of meals.

Great improvements have been effected and, as a result of the inspections and interviews, only stainless steel, chromium or plastic pipes are now used.

In each case, the Brewery Company concerned have shewn every co-operation with your Sanitary Inspectors.

FOOD AND DRUGS (Milk and Dairies) ACT, 1944.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Powers of supervision of the retail distribution and sampling of milk for bacteriological examination are vested in the Local Authority :—

Number of Distributors on Register...	19
Number of Dairies in Area	18
Number of Visits	91

70 samples of milk were taken during the year and sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff for bacteriological examination and chemical tests.

11 samples were found to be unsatisfactory. In these instances, copies of the Analyst's reports were sent to the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

22 samples were submitted for Tubercule Bacilli and found to be satisfactory.

MILK (Special Designation) ACT, 1949.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949

No dealers' licences were issued.

MILK (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) REGULATIONS, 1949.

16 dealers' licences authorising the use of the Special Designation 'Pasteurised,' and 12 licences for the Special Designation 'Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised)' were issued to distributors of milk in this area.

1 dealer's licence was issued for the use of the Special Designation, 'Sterilised.'

1 Supplementary licence authorising the use of the Special Designation 'Pasteurised' and 1 Supplementary licence for Tuberculin Tested Milk ('Pasteurised') to a distributor of milk residing outside the Urban Area.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

6 licences to act as slaughtermen were issued during the year.

Notices of intended slaughtering of 39 cottagers' pigs were received by the Public Health Department, and the carcasses were inspected by the sanitary inspectors.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	Not known
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	39
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases in which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	—...	—	—	5.13

A total of 1 ton, 6 cwts., 78 lbs. of foodstuffs was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption, voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

†Pork	...	...	...	...	78
†Home Killed Beef	...	...	...	...	108 $\frac{1}{2}$
*Bacon	...	...	...	...	48
†Imported Beef	...	...	...	...	30 $\frac{3}{4}$
Offal	...	...	...	...	27
Sausages	...	...	...	...	210
Tinned Meat	...	...	...	...	511
Tinned Ham	...	...	...	...	289
Tinned Goods	...	...	...	...	1275
Cereals	...	...	...	...	5
*Cheese	...	...	...	...	158
Cake Mixture	...	...	...	...	14
Skimmed Milk Powder	...	...	...	...	224
Poultry	...	...	...	...	10

* Returned to Ministry of Food agents through trade channels (118lbs Cheese only).

† Returned to Wholesale Meat Suppliers Association (26lbs Pork only).

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Premises where pet animals are sold must be licenced annually by the local authority.

2 such licences were issued during the year and the premises were frequently inspected in accordance with the provisions of the above mentioned Act.

RAG FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

1 factory in the area has been registered as an Upholstery premises.

Frequent visits have been made to see that the provisions of the above Act are being complied with.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

During the year work on the destruction of rats was continued. Private dwellings were treated free of costs to the occupiers, and 50 per cent. of the costs incurred were recovered from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

No grant is made in respect of business premises, and all expenditure has to be recovered from the owners or occupiers of these premises.

Two full time Rodent Operatives are employed by the Council, and details of the work carried out by them, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors, are as follows :—

Number of Notices served :—

(1) for treatment	...	...	...	7
(2) for structural work	...	...	...	6

Number of Premises visited 2,638

		RATS.		MICE.
Number of dwelling houses treated	...	199	...	175
Number of business premises treated		5	...	5
Number of canteens treated	...	4		
Number of refuse tips treated	...	7		
Number of embankments treated	...	14		
Number of watercourses treated...	...	13		
Number of piggeries treated	...	19		
Number of sewer beds treated	...	7		
Number of back lanes treated	...	2		
Number of culverts treated	...	1		
Number of sections of river embankments treated	...	42		
Number of schools treated	...		...	1
Number of canal banks treated	...	1		

BLOCK TREATMENTS :—

The following block treatments were carried out during the year :—

- (a) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Ynysddwr Cottages, back gardens, watercourse and canal bank, Abercynon. The estimated kill was 50 rats.
- (b) & (c) Piggeries, allotments, embankments, sewer man-holes, Bailey Street, Miskin, Mountain Ash, with an estimated kill of 300 rats on the first treatment and 45 rats on the second treatment.
- (d) 2-68 (even numbers) Lock Street, Abercynon, gardens and embankments with an estimated kill of 120 rats.
- (e) Both embankments of the River Cynon from the boundary with Aberdare to Abercynon, and both embankments of the River Taff from Abercynon to the boundary with Pontypridd. The estimated kill of rats was 1852.
- (f) Both embankments of the river Clydach to the boundary with Pontypridd, giving an estimated kill of 595 rats.

The estimated kill of rats throughout the area (excluding the sewers), for the year, was, as follows :—

Mountain Ash	...	...	...	3,038
Penrhiwceiber	...	...	...	830
Abercynon	...	...	...	1,818
Ynysybwl	...	...	...	2,725
				<hr/>
				8,411
				<hr/>

All estimated kills are worked out in accordance with the formula of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

SEWER TREATMENT :—

Two maintenance treatments of the sewers throughout the area, comprising 670 manholes, were carried out, one from 8th June to 4th July, 1953, and the other from 23rd November to 19th December, 1953.

336 manholes showed a pre-bait take and 19 manholes showed a complete pre-bait take on one or both of the days during the first treatment, whereas the figures for the second treatment were 370 and 49 respectively. As there is no check on the poison take in sewers, it is impossible to work out an estimated kill.

The treatments were carried out by the Rodent Operatives, assisted by two men from the Surveyor's Department.

All sewer beds and refuse tips were treated at the same time as the sewers. These treatments were carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The bait used in the first treatment was Sausage Rusk and the poison Zinc Phosphide and, for the second treatment, the bait was Bread Mash and the poison Arsenious Oxide.

The nature and development of the Mountain Ash Urban Area and the close proximity of the dwelling houses, etc., to the river makes rodent infestation and reinfestation inevitable, and will necessitate constant survey, treatment and supervision.

W. J. WATTERS,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

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ELECTRIC PRESS
CARDIFF STREET, ABERDARE

